

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/765,914  
Response filed March 14, 2005  
Reply to OA dated January 13, 2005

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An audio mixing circuit comprising:

an equalizer;

a fader operably coupled and cascaded to the equalizer;

a distance filter operably coupled and cascaded to the fader for attenuating [[and]] or increasing an audio signal level of an input audio signal in an entire audio-frequency band and an audio signal level of a high-audio-frequency component extracted from the input audio signal, in a correlated manner; and

a pan circuit operably coupled and cascaded to the distance filter.

Claim 2 (Original): An audio mixing circuit according to claim 1, wherein the distance filter includes a variable attenuator for attenuating an input audio signal to an arbitrary level, and a low-pass filter capable of varying a cutoff frequency, wherein one of the variable attenuator and the low-pass filter is cascaded to the other of the variable attenuator and the low-pass filter; and

wherein an amount of attenuation of the variable attenuator and the cutoff frequency of the low-pass filter are determined so that the cutoff frequency is lower when the amount of

attenuation is larger.

Claim 3 (New): An audio mixing circuit comprising:

an equalizer;

a fader operably coupled and cascaded to the equalizer;

a distance filter operably coupled and cascaded to the fader, wherein the distance filter comprises a variable attenuator and a low-pass filter for attenuating or increasing an audio signal level of an input audio signal in an entire audio-frequency band and an audio signal level of a high-audio-frequency component extracted from the input audio signal, in a correlated manner; and

a pan circuit operably coupled and cascaded to the distance filter.

Claim 4 (New): An audio mixing circuit according to claim 3, wherein the variable attenuator attenuates an input audio signal to an arbitrary level, and the low-pass filter varies a cutoff frequency, wherein one of the variable attenuator and the low-pass filter is coupled and cascaded to the other of the variable attenuator and the low-pass filter; and

wherein an amount of attenuation of the variable attenuator and the cutoff frequency of the low-pass filter are determined so that the cutoff frequency is lower when the amount of attenuation is larger.

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Claim 5 (New): An audio mixing circuit according to claim 1, wherein the distance filter comprises a variable resistor and a low-pass filter.

Claim 6 (New): An audio mixing circuit according to claim 5, wherein the low-pass filter comprises a resistor and a variable capacitor.